



United States Capitol Visitor Center

Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol

September 11, 2006



Stone masons have nearly completed the marble and dolemite floor for the lobby area just outside of the South Orientation Theater.

This Week – Ongoing Work – 9/11/06 through 9/15/06

CVC and East Front Plaza:

- Mason teams continue setting stone in the corridors adjacent to the Great Hall and in the threshold transitions from the Great Hall leading to the Food Service Area. Installation of bronze rails for the Hall's central stair may begin this week.
- In the East Front crews are expected to resume installation of the metal framework that will support the stone at the Rotunda and Gallery levels along the east walls. Masons have completed reinstalling the original marble wall panels in the East Front near the Memorial and Law Library Doors. Ceiling and floor work in these zones will proceed shortly.
- In the Exhibition Hall the scaffold has been dismantled and workers continue to lay out the steel framework that will support the marble "Wall of Aspirations," which will house 40 to 50 historic documents down the center of the Hall.
- A millwork contractor is expected to complete the installation of wood ceiling panels inside the North Orientation Theater and will start in the South Theater next week. The ceiling work should be completed by late-September clearing the way for crews to dismantle the scaffolding and install the final acoustic wood panels to the theater walls.
- Floor stone installation is nearly complete in the lobby just outside the South Orientation Theater (see photo above). Crews will continue working from that location heading east toward the south CVC entrance zone.
- Workers have completed installation of bronze railings at the upper level of the atrium near the Congressional Auditorium.
- Stone installation is complete in both the House and Senate stairwell atria walls on all three levels. The scaffolding has been removed in both atria clearing the way for construction of a two-story blockwall that will rise along the eastern side of both atria. These blockwalls will be ornamented with stone and provide a backdrop for open circular staircases that connect all three levels within each of the House and Senate expansion spaces.



Architect of the Capitol Alan Hantman (right) discusses the stone work in the CVC's Great Hall with (from left) Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, Senator Jim DeMint and Senator Robert Bennett during a tour of the Capitol Visitor Center and Senate expansion space on September 5, 2006.

- Ceiling drywall installation is complete in the Food Service area and crews continue installing light fixtures and the framework for curving soffits that will support acoustic fabric ceiling panels. Installation of the finish ceiling panels is expected to begin next week.
- Millwork installation may begin in two Congressional meeting rooms near the Congressional Auditorium.
- Masons are expected to resume work on the historic seatwalls around the House and Senate large oval grass panels.
- In the expansion spaces, crews continue to prepare walls and ceilings for close-in inspections.
- Utility crews are preparing to open the valves of the CVC's chilled water lines to allow for a full charging of lines next week.



CVC Flashback: On September 11, 2002, during the initial stage of excavation, workers on the CVC site paused to remember those who had lost their lives a year earlier in the terrorist attacks and to pay tribute especially to those passengers on Flight 93 whose bravery may have thwarted a potential attack on the Capitol.

Next Week – 9/18/06 – 9/22/06

CVC, East Front Plaza Work

- Installation of millwork will continue in the South Orientation Theater. Crews are expected to begin dismantling the scaffold in the North Orientation Theater.
- Floor stone installation will continue in areas adjacent to the Great Hall.
- Installation of finish ceiling panels may begin in the Food Service Area.
- Crews will begin assembling the steel support system for the Exhibit Hall's "Wall of Aspirations."
- Stone installation will continue in the main upper-level lobby just east of the Orientation Theaters.
- All operating air handling units will be temporarily shut down to allow for chilled water to fill the entire CVC cooling system. The units will come back on line the following week.

For additional information about the CVC project, contact the project communications officer, Tom Fontana, at fontana@ao.gov or visit the project web site at www.ao.gov. Be sure to click on the "Capitol Visitor Center" link on the homepage.